

The New York Times *POLL*

New York City

Aug. 9-15, 2011

Total N = 1,027

Results are based on the total city-wide sample unless otherwise noted.

An asterisk indicates registered respondents. Trends are based on New York Times Polls except: New York Times/CBS News Polls: Oct. 1998 - Oct. 2000, Aug. 2006

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Michael Bloomberg is handling his job as Mayor?

	Approve	Disapprove	DK/NA
6/4-9/02	48	26	26
8/25-29/02	47	31	22
10/12-16/02	47	41	12
1/11-15/03	31	53	16
6/6-11/03	24	65	11
7/13-27/03	25	67	8
8/31-9/4/03	32	57	11
4/16-21/04	38	46	16
8/20-25/04	40	49	11
2/4-13/05	43	45	12
6/21-26/05	50	35	15
8/22-28/05	59	31	11
10/21-26/05	67	23	10
8/23-27/06	63	22	15
6/6-11/08	67	28	5
5/29-6/3/09	60	34	6
8/27-31/10	59	29	12
10/26-28/10	54	30	16
8/9-15/11	45	43	13

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Michael Bloomberg is handling education in New York City?

	Approve	Disapprove	DK/NA
6/4-9/02	39	40	21
1/11-15/03	43	38	18
4/16-21/04	38	46	16
8/9-15/11	34	52	13
All parents	35	56	8
P.S. Parents	36	56	8

36. Are you generally satisfied with the quality of public schools in New York City, or are you not satisfied?

	Satisfied	Not satisfied	DK/NA
5/10-14/93	14	72	13
9/29-10/3/93	13	73	14
6/12-15/94	20	71	12
3/1-6/97	21	67	13
10/13-18/97*	13	76	11
8/5-12/01*	15	73	12
10/27-11/01*	22	61	17
6/4-9/02	20	68	12
1/11-15/03	20	66	14
4/16-21/04	16	72	12
2/4-13/05*	16	68	15
6/21-26/05	24	64	12
8/22-24/05	28	59	13
8/9-15/11	29	57	15
All Parents	32	58	10
P.S. Parents	39	56	5

37. Since Michael Bloomberg became Mayor, do you think the quality of public education in New York City has gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed about the same?

	Better	Worse	Same	DK/NA
4/16-21/04 ¹	18	22	50	11
2/4-13/05*	23	33	34	10
6/21-25/05*	38	13	41	8
8/9-15/11	24	27	40	9
All Parents	23	27	42	7
P.S. Parents	29	25	43	3

¹ Question read: "Since Michael Bloomberg became Mayor, do you think the quality of PUBLIC EDUCATION in New York City has improved, gotten worse, or stayed about the same?"

38. Is your opinion of the New York City teachers' union favorable, not favorable, undecided or haven't you heard enough about the New York City teachers' union yet to have an opinion?

	Favorable	Not favorable	Undecided	Haven't heard enough	Refused
4/16-21/04	20	16	13	47	4
P.S. Parents	20	12	12	54	2
8/9-15/11	25	16	15	40	3
All Parents	23	20	14	43	1
P.S. Parents	24	16	13	47	

39. How much have you heard or read about charter schools, which are public schools that are run independently of the Department of Education and the teacher's union -- a lot, some, not much or nothing at all?

	A lot	Some	Not much	Nothing at all	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	25	33	22	19	2

40. Charter schools are independent public schools that operate under a contract, or charter, that frees them from many of the regulations imposed on traditional public schools by the Department of Education and the teachers' union. Some people say charter schools are a good idea because they offer parents more options and allow individual school flexibility. Other people say charter schools are a bad idea because they take money and resources away from traditional local public schools. What do you think -- are charter schools a good idea or a bad idea?

	Good idea	Bad idea	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	56	28	16

41. Many New York City schools, both charter schools and traditional public schools, share buildings with other schools. Do you think that is a good idea or a bad idea?

	Good idea	Bad idea	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	39	48	13

42. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dennis Walcott is handling his job as New York City Schools Chancellor?

	Approve	Disapprove	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	33	15	53

43. What do you think should be Dennis Walcott's top priority in his efforts to improve public schools in New York City: 1. Getting more funding for education, or 2. Improving teacher quality, or 3. Dealing with overcrowding and class size, or 4. Increasing school safety or 5. Making standards for students more rigorous?

	More funding	Teacher quality	Overcrowding/ class size	Safety	Standards for students	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	26	22	25	9	10	8

Are you the parent or guardian of a child under 18 that lives with you?

	Yes	No	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	37	63	-

44. IF PARENT, ASK: Are your children currently enrolled in public school, or private school, or parochial school?

	8/9-15/11
Public	57
Private	15
Parochial	7
Public & Other	2
Charter	2
Home School	1
Not school age	15
Other	1
DK/NA	1

45. What's the BEST thing about the public school your children attend?

	4/16-21/04 P.S. Parents	8/8-15/11 P.S. Parents
Location	3	6
Teachers - quality - numbers	22	34
Other parents	1	2
Other students	1	1
After school programs	8	5
Tutoring	1	1
Diversity	3	5
Security	2	4
School/class size	2	6
Staffing	3	1
Treatment of parents	6	3
Equipment/supplies/lunch	2	1
Student achievement	8	2
Special ed programs	7	2
Teacher's Union		1
Curriculum		4
Nothing	5	3
Other	7	7
DK/NA	20	12

46. What's the WORST thing about the public school your children attend?

	4/16-21/04 P.S. Parents	8/9-15/11 P.S. Parents
Location	1	1
Teachers - quality - numbers	7	8
Other parents		1
After school programs	3	2
Diversity	2	3
Security	8	12
Discipline/fighting	11	8
School/class size	11	13
Staffing	1	1
Treatment of parents	3	1
Equipment/supplies/lunch	10	6
Student achievement	2	2
Special programs		1
Nothing	4	6
Other	7	15
DK/NA	28	20

49. Are you generally satisfied with the choice of public schools you have for your children, or are you not satisfied?

BASED ON PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENTS

	Satisfied	Not satisfied	DK/NA
4/16-21/04	51	46	3
8/9-15/11	67	32	1

50. When deciding which school to send your children to, which ONE of the following is MOST important to you: 1. the school's report card from the department of education, measuring performance and improvement, OR 2. the diversity of the student body, OR 3. the size of the classes, OR 4. the school's location, OR 5. the quality of the teachers OR 6. particular programs that the school offers? **BASED ON ALL PARENTS**

	Progress report	Diversity	Class size	School location	Teacher quality	School programs	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	21	2	7	12	36	15	6

51. Thinking about the information about schools that you get to help you decide where to send your children, how satisfied are you with the amount you receive--very satisfied, only somewhat satisfied or not satisfied at all?

BASED ON ALL PARENTS

	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Not at all satisfied	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	37	41	14	8

52. Is the information you get about schools very clear and easy to understand, or only somewhat clear and easy to understand or not clear and easy to understand at all? **BASED ON ALL PARENTS**

	Very	Somewhat	Not very	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	46	35	12	8

70. How long have you lived in New York City?

	Less than one year	1-10 years	11-20 years	21-30 years	31-40 years	Over 40 years	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	1	12	21	21	12	30	2

In what borough do you NOW live?

	Bronx	Brooklyn	Manhattan	Queens	Staten Island	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	16	27	19	29	9	1

What is your religious preference today?

	Protestant	Catholic	Jewish	Muslim	Other	None	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	27	34	9	2	6	17	5

Are you now married, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	Never married	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	42	7	8	4	36	2

Generally speaking, do you usually consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or what?

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	12	49	27	12

How would you describe your views on most political matters? Generally do you think of yourself as liberal, moderate, or conservative?

	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	31	34	25	10

What was the last grade in school you completed?

	Not a H.S. grad	H.S. grad	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Refused
8/9-15/11	12	34	22	17	13	1

How old are you?

	18-29	30-44	45-64	Over 64	Refused
8/9-15/11	22	31	30	16	2

Are you of Hispanic origin or descent, or not?

	Hispanic	Not Hispanic	Interviewed in Spanish	DK/NA
8/9-15/11	22	72	5	1

Are you white, black, or some other race?

	White	Black	Asian	Other	Refused
8/9-15/11	46	27	4	18	4

Was your total family income, that is your household income before taxes, in 2010 UNDER or OVER \$50,000?? IF UNDER, ASK: Was it under \$15,000, or between \$15,000 and \$30,000, or over \$30,000? IF OVER, ASK: Was it between \$50,000 and \$75,000, or between \$75,000 and \$100,000 or was it over \$100,000?

	Under \$15,000	\$15,000- \$29,999	\$30,000- \$49,999	\$50,000- \$74,999	\$75,000- \$100,000	Over \$100,000	Refused
8/9-15/11	11	16	15	17	9	16	15

Gender

	Male	Female
8/9-15/11	47	53